

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 04483 090803Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-07 SP-02
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 NRC-07 /142 W
-----000195 100634Z/13-12

R 090618Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3493
INFO AMCONSUL BRISBANE
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL PERTH
AMCONSUL SYDNEY
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
DOE WASHINGTON
DOE GERMANTOWN

UNCLAS CANBERRA 4483

OECD
IAEA

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: EMIN, ENRG, TECH, AS
SUBJECT: INVESTMENT IN ANY FUTURE AUSTRALIAN URANIUM ENRICHMENT
FACILITY

REF: SYDNEY A-16 (NOTAL)

1. PAGE 3 OF REFAIR STATES THAT GOA IS OPPOSED TO ADMITTING
FOREIGN CAPITAL INTO THE URANIUM ENRICHMENT SECTOR. THIS
MESSAGE CLARIFIED THE SITUATION.

2. THE GOA, AS A MATTER OF POLICY, WISHED TO SEE THE MAXIMUM
PROCESSING OF AUSTRALIAN RAW MATERIALS PRIOR TO EXPORT.

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CONSISTENT WITH THIS ATTITUDE, THE GOA WILL STUDY THE
FEASIBILITY OF UPGRADING AN ENRICHMENT OF URANIUM IN
AUSTRALIA, AND PRESERVE AUSTRALIA'S OPTIONS IN THIS
REGARD.

3. URANIUM ENRICHMENT AND OTHER INVESTMENTS IN THE NUCLEAR
FUEL CYCLE APART FROM MINING AND PRODUCTION TO THE YELLOW-

CAKE STAGE, ARE NOT COVERED BY THE INVESTMENT GUIDELINE WHICH STATES THAT A MINIMUM OF 75 PERCENT AUSTRALIAN DQUITY AND AUSTRALIAN CONTROL IS REQUIRED FOR URANIUM MINING AND YELLOWCAKE FACILITIES BY THE TIME THE PROJECT COMES INTO PRODUCTION. IN THE CASE OF ANY FUTURE URANIUM ENRICHMENT FACILITY, EACH PROJECT WILL BE LOOKED AT SEPARATELY, WITH NO PREDETERMINED AUSTRALIAN DQUITY REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE.

4. COMMENT: AUSTRALIAN DOES NOT POSSESS THE NEEDED TECHNOLOGICAL EXPERTISE TO PROCEED WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ANY URANIUM ENRICHMENT FACILITY. TRUE, LOCAL INDUSTRY COULD PROVIDE SOME COMPONENTS FOR THE PLANT, BUT THE BULK OF MATERIALS WOULD HAVE TO BE IMPORTED INTO AUSTRALIA. IN CONCLUSION, THE GOA IS NOT OPPOSED TO SEEKING FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN A URANIUM ENRICHMENT FACILITY, BUT ONE CAN REST ASSURED THAT THE GOA WILL RE QUIRE SELECTIVE WHEN SEEKING FOREIGN INVESTORS FOR ANY FUTURE AUSTRALIAN ENRICHMENT FACILITY.

SQUIRE

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Message Attributes

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